

## JANUARY MEDIA RELEASE

### **Mohave County Court System Focuses on Providing High Quality Cost Effective Training**

Two hundred and twenty nine staff and judges from throughout the Mohave County court system convened in Kingman on January 8 and 9, 2008, for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Mohave County Court and Probation conference. The conference is part of an ongoing effort to assist employees in meeting their required mandatory annual training requirements.

In 1983, the Arizona Supreme Court established an educational system for all judges and employees of the Arizona judicial department. The educational system mandates that all full and part-time judges and court personnel complete sixteen hours of continuing education on an annual basis, including an ethics related course and job-specific training.

Thirteen years ago in 1995, the Mohave County court system first began to sponsor the conference as a way to provide high-quality cost-effective training at the local level. The court found that it was able to meet the training needs of its employees at a significantly reduced cost. Budgetary savings were realized by not having to send employees out of town to Phoenix or other locations throughout the state in order to meet the mandated training requirements.

During the two-day conference on January 8 and 9, judges, court and probation personnel from the Mohave County court system earned a total of 1589 hours of training credit. The conference included a total of twenty-seven breakout classes designed to improve the professional skills, competence and ethical obligations of judges, probation and court personnel. Class topics ranged from sessions dealing with current and local issues within Arizona's court system to classes dealing with public service, effective communication, customer service, ethics and strategic planning.

The Mohave County court system also holds a local mid-year training conference in June during the time when all judges are attending the mandatory statewide judicial conference. A local training committee comprised of employees from each area of the Mohave County court system is responsible for planning the two annual conferences. Their work along with that of the Court Human Resource office helps ensure high quality cost effective training is available to all Court and Probation employees.



Honorable Randolph A. Bartlett, Presiding Judge, addresses judges and employees at conference on January 8 and 9, 2008